

REMARKS

Status of Application

Claims 1-5, 7-10 and 12 are all the claims pending in the Application. By this Amendment Applicant cancels claims 6 and 11 without prejudice.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. In the Amendment of March 11, 2008, Applicant amended claim 1 in response to the Examiner's rejection. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. In the Amendment of March 11, 2008, Applicant also amended claim 4 in response to the Examiner's comments. Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 4 is not now indefinite. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over EP 1089506 to Cao ("Cao"). Applicant traverses this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claims 6 and 10 are canceled, thereby rendering their rejection moot.

Claim 1 is amended to require that a control means "receives a request to transfer a call via said first network, said call being associated with at least one service criterion and designating said second network, said at least one service criterion comprising ability to protect/restore a link." The cited portions of Cao fail to teach or suggest, inter alia, this feature of amended claim 1.

Thus, even when taken as a whole for what it would have meant to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention, Cao fails to teach or suggest each and every required element of claim 1 as amended. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of independent claim 1 and its dependent claims 1-5, 7-10, and 12.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

This Application is being filed via the USPTO Electronic Filing System (EFS). Applicants herewith petition the Director of the USPTO to extend the time for reply to the above-identified Office Action for an appropriate length of time if necessary. Any fee due under 37 U.S.C. § 1.17(a) is being paid via the USPTO Electronic Filing System (EFS). The USPTO is also directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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